

IDAHO PLUMBING BOARD MEETING

Friday – September 29, 2006 – 9:00 A.M.

North Idaho College
Workforce Training Center
525 West Clearwater Loop
Post Falls, ID 83854

NOTE: The following report is not intended to be a verbatim transcript of the discussions at the meeting, but is intended to record the significant features of those discussions.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ray Coon at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, September 29, 2006.

Board Members Present:

Ray Coon, SanRay Plumbing, Chairman
Bob Livesay, Crown Plumbing, Vice-Chairman
Ben Schooley, B & S Plumbing

Board Members Absent:

Milford Terrell, DeBest Plumbing

DBS Staff Members:

John A. McAllister, Administrator
Steve Keys, Deputy Administrator
Rusty Boyer, Code Specialist
Al Caine, Licensing Program Supervisor
Linda Hyde, Administrative Assistant

CHANGES TO AGENDA: Chairman Coon requested that the City of Coeur d'Alene, Water Softener Loop Requirement discussion be moved to the beginning of the ACTION AGENDA section.

MEETING MINUTES MOTION: Bob Livesay made a motion to accept the Meeting Minutes of June 30, 2006, with any additions or corrections that the Board may have. Ben Schooley seconded, all yes, minutes approved.

◆ **Finance Report: Steve Keys**

The finance report's Appropriation Balances and Revenue Comparisons were reviewed.

◆ **City of Coeur d'Alene and the Water Softener Loop Requirement: Jim Markley (City of Coeur d'Alene Water Department)**

Jim Markley appeared before the Board specifically to address the issue of hard water in Coeur d'Alene. He described it as being moderately hard then produced several examples of pipe taken from the ground in Coeur d'Alene. A discussion followed regarding public health and safety and the issue of the water softener loop. A response was given as to why the Board properly promulgated the rule for the requirement that softener (Water Conditioning) loops be instituted. It was not only for water softeners, but for a variety of water conditioning situations. It was stressed that the Board was not mandating that softeners be installed or required; however, if a homeowner wanted to install a softener, sand filter, carbon filter or some other type of water treatment/conditioning product, the homeowner would have the ability to have the items installed without damaging the integrity of the plumbing system.

ACTION: This item will be added to the agenda for further discussion at the next Board meeting in February, 2007, when there is a full Board.

◆ **Notice Of Violations (NOV's): Al Caine**

At the last Board Meeting, there was a discussion regarding NOV's being issued to Contractor's who do not pull a permit within a reasonable amount of time. A change is now being implemented wherein a permit number will be required when the inspection is requested. If DBS does not receive the permit or payment within 20 days, the permit fee will double, however, no NOV's or Civil Penalties will be involved.

◆ **IAPMO Testing/Certification Presentation: Jay Peters and Jay Bowermeister**

Al Caine explained that DBS's contract with BSU has expired. While they are willing to continue to administer exams in the Boise location; DBS needs another solution for testing and certification. Jay Peters and Jay Bowermeister described IAPMO's testing and certification processes. The testing division of IAPMO is known as ICES (IAPMO Construction Examination Services). A comparison of ICC to ICES concluded that ICES has 220 unique exams, forty for Code Inspectors and one hundred-eighty for Contractors. ICC has thirty-two Code Inspector exams and twenty-six Contractor exams. The standard cost for an ICES Journeyman or Contractor exam is fifty-five dollars (\$55.00).

MOTION: Ben Schooley made a motion that Board and the Bureau pursue an agreement with ICES for developing Apprentice, Journeyman and Contractor Plumbing exams. Bob Livesay seconded, motion passed unanimously.

◆ **Exam Summary Report – Al Caine**

The exam summary report focused on the pass rate of Journeymen. The August pass rate was 90%.

◆ **Air Admittance Valves and Side Wall Venting – Ray Coon**

Discussion continued from the last meeting regarding changes and limitations on the use of Air Admittance Valves. Vents are to extend flush with the eave gable end and turn down on a 90° elbow as close to the peak as possible. The pipe end is to be screened.

MOTION: Bob Livesay made a motion to accept the parameters for the limited use of air admittance valves and side wall venting. Ben Schooley seconded, motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: This item will be added to the agenda for the next Plumbing Board meeting in February, 2007.

◆ **Status Report on search for Plumbing Bureau Chief: John McAllister**

Twenty resumes have been received so far. There is a wide range of applicants; many are highly qualified, however, many are not. The selection process for the 6 potential candidates to be interviewed will begin in October. John would like members of the Plumbing and HVAC Boards to be on the panel.

◆ **Contract Inspectors: John McAllister**

During the last legislative session, DBS was instructed by the legislature to explore the option of using contract inspectors as part of an ongoing effort to promote effective and efficient public safety operations. The Division will be initiating a pilot study beginning fiscal year 2008 to explore this feasibility of this alternative approach.

◆ **Flat Rate Fee: John McAllister**

The Division is optimistic that a flat rate fee will further promote operational efficiencies. Administratively, the current Plumbing fee schedule is expensive and complicated, as is the case with all of the Bureaus. The Division's goal is to standardize such areas across all Bureaus. A discussion ensued regarding the necessity of the flat rate fee. The Plumbing Board was asked to reconsider this issue.

No executive session was called for.

MOTION: Bob Livesay made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ben Schooley seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

STEVE KEYS
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, OPERATIONS

DATE

JOHN A. MCALLISTER
ADMINISTRATOR, DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

RAY COON
CHAIRMAN, PLUMBING BOARD

DATE